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Information Alert

from the National Agricultural Library



United States
Department of
Agriculture



Press Releases – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Brian Norris
(301) 344-3778

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Press Release – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Contact: Brian Norris
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Global Change Info Packet Available from NAL

Beltsville, MD – An information packet on global climate change is available free of charge from the National Agricultural Library (NAL) in Beltsville, Maryland. The packet of information, prepared by NAL, describes the concerns surrounding and potential effects of global climate change, lists books and journal articles that discuss these concerns more fully and describes how to obtain additional information.

“We’ve prepared this packet to provide information to the general public,” said Keith Russell, NAL Associate Director for Public Services and a member of the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Global Change Research Team. “We are making no judgements, but are only trying to provide relevant information that will help to educate the average citizen on the issue of global change.”

Specifically, the packet includes reprints of articles supporting and rejecting the global change concern, bibliographies of other readings on global change, a guide to global change information sources and a directory of global climate change organizations. There also are other materials.

For a copy of the Global Change Information Packet send a request with a self-addressed mailing label to:

Reference Section, Room 111
National Agricultural Library
10301 Baltimore Boulevard
Beltsville, MD 20705-2351

The National Agricultural Library is an agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. It is the largest agricultural library in the world, containing over 2.1 million volumes and receiving 26,000 current periodical titles from throughout the world. With the Library of Congress and the National Library of Medicine, NAL is one of three national libraries of the United States.

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Contact: Brian Norris
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Four New Aquaculture Publications Available from NAL

Beltsville, MD – For anyone considering starting an aquaculture venture, the National Agricultural Library (NAL) in Beltsville, Maryland has available, free-of-charge, four new publications on this rapidly growing industry and science that could be helpful.

Aquaculture: A Guide to Federal Government Programs, prepared by the Joint Subcommittee on Aquaculture in cooperation with NAL, lists and describes agencies or organizations of the federal government that are involved in aquaculture. The publication also gives addresses and telephone numbers for additional aquaculture information from each agency.

Financial Sources for Aquaculture, produced by the Aquaculture Information Center of NAL, is directed at "the farmer who is looking for a source of income through use of marginal agricultural lands, existing ponds, or vacant buildings; the potential aquaculturalist who is looking for a new enterprise; or the current aquaculturalist who is considering expanding his/her operation." The publication gives advice on developing an aquaculture business plan, and lists and explains federal and state loan programs, federal and private agencies providing research grants, and private loan institutions. Addresses and telephone numbers are included.

Audiovisuals for Aquaculture, prepared by NAL's Aquaculture Information Center, lists 70 separate educational audiovisual materials on aquaculture and related subjects. Also listed are addresses to contact to obtain the materials and the costs or rental fees for each item. Most of the listed materials are videotapes (VHS format), but there are also some slide programs and filmstrips.

Interactions of Aquaculture, Marine Coastal Ecosystems, and Near-Shore Waters: A Bibliography contains selected literature citations on the interactions of aquaculture and marine coastal ecosystems, with a focus on

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aquaculture effluents and their impact on coastal ecosystems and waterways as well as the impact of pollutants on aquaculture development. The publication is a cooperative project of the U.S. Aquatic Sciences and Fisheries Information System (ASFIS) network of Aquatic Sciences and Fisheries Abstracts (ASFA) national centers and the University of Hawaii. It represents a collaborative effort between the NAL's Aquaculture Information Center; the National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the Hamilton Library of the University of Hawaii.

Copies of any or all of these publications are available by sending a request with a self-addressed label to:

Aquaculture Information Center
National Agricultural Library
10301 Baltimore Blvd., Attn: Bib.
Beltsville, MD 20705-2351

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Contact: Brian Norris
(301) 344-3778

NAL Now Provides Article Abstracts for Nearly 340 Journals

Beltsville, MD—The bibliographic database (called AGRICOLA) of the National Agricultural Library (NAL) now has abstracts of articles contained in 338 journals related to agriculture.

AGRICOLA (*AGRICultural OnLine Access*) contains the bibliographic records of almost 3 million agriculturally related books, journals, monographs, theses, patents, software programs, audiovisual materials and technical reports. It gives users quick access to the collections of NAL and its cooperators.

With the expanded abstracts feature of AGRICOLA, researchers, scientists and other users of agricultural information can get a synopsis of articles dealing with just about all phases of agriculture from agronomy to zoology.

“Including abstracts of articles from this many journals is a major improvement to the AGRICOLA database,” said NAL Director Joseph Howard. “The abstracts quickly let NAL users know whether a particular article would be helpful in their research. It can save hours of research time.”

This is the latest in a number of improvements NAL has made in recent years to make agricultural information more accessible to those who need it, according to Howard.

“We have developed several new systems involving such technology as laser discs, CD-ROMs and computer networks which make it easier for the world to use the agricultural information contained at NAL,” Howard said. “But AGRICOLA is the ultimate guide to the NAL collection and any improvement to it will tremendously benefit the agricultural research community.”

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Online access to AGRICOLA is available from the following commercial vendors:

BRS Information Technologies
1200 Route 7
Latham, NY 12110
(800) 345-4277
(518) 783-1161

DIALOG Information Services, Inc.
3460 Hillview Avenue
Palo Alto, CA 94304
(800) 3-DIALOG
(415) 858-3810

Users may also purchase AGRICOLA on Compact Disc-Read Only Memory (CD-ROM) from:

OCLC Online Computer Library Center, Inc.
6565 Frantz Road
Dublin, OH 43017-0702
(800) 848-5878
(614) 764-6000

Quanta Press, Inc.
2550 University Avenue West, Suite 245N
St. Paul, MN 55114
(612) 641-0714

SilverPlatter Information, Inc.
37 Walnut Street
Wellesley Hills, MA 02181
(800) 343-0064
(617) 239-0306

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Contact: Brian Norris
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Biotechnology Bibliographies Available at NAL

Beltsville, MD—The fascinating and sometimes controversial subject of biotechnology is covered extensively in materials listed in a set of *Quick Bibliographies* prepared by the National Agricultural Library (NAL) in Beltsville, Maryland.

Contained in the bibliographies are literature citations of journal articles, books, monographs, theses and other materials related to various aspects of biotechnology. The listed materials are part of NAL's collection of over 2.1 million volumes.

The bibliographies, prepared by NAL's Biotechnology Information Center (BIC), are available free of charge by sending a request with a self-addressed mailing label to:

Biotechnology Information Center
Attn: Bibliographies
National Agricultural Library, 14th Floor
10301 Baltimore Boulevard
Beltsville, MD 20705-2351

Ten of the titles are revisions of bibliographies previously published by NAL; three are new. The bibliographies are:

- Biotechnology: Patenting Issues, QB 91-77
- Biotechnology: Risk Assessment, QB 91-79
- Biotechnology: Legislation and Regulation, QB 91-80 (new)
- Biotechnology: Plant Protection from Viruses, QB 91-81
- Biotechnology: Plant Protection from Agents Other Than Viruses, QB 91-82

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Biotechnology: Ti-Plasmid and Other Plant Gene Vectors, QB 91-93

Biotechnology In Food Science and Technology, QB 91-98

Biotechnology: Genetic Engineering for Crop Plant Improvement, QB 91-107

Gene Expression in Horticultural Crops, QB 91-109

Gene Expression in Algae and Fungi Including Yeast, QB 91-110

Gene Expression in Crop Plants, QB 91-111

Biotechnology in Human Health and Nutrition, QB 91-97 (new)

Biotechnology and Bioremediation, QB 91-106 (new)

"The bibliographies were produced specifically with scientists and biotechnology researchers in mind," said BIC coordinator, Dr. Robert Warmbrodt. "However, they can be helpful, and are available, to anyone with an interest in the subject."

NAL's Biotechnology Information Center provides to the scientific community and the general public, access to a variety of information services and publications covering the theory and techniques of genetic engineering, plant and animal genetics and other biotechnology-related subjects.

BIC assists patrons in accessing NAL's biotechnology collection, makes referrals to biotechnology organizations and experts that can provide additional information, and can identify for patrons USDA biotechnology research.

BIC is one of 11 information centers maintained by NAL to keep abreast of information on important issues affecting U.S. agriculture. Other subjects covered are agricultural trade and marketing, alternative farming systems, animal welfare, aquaculture, food and nutrition, plant genome, rural information, technology transfer, water quality and youth development.

With the Library of Congress and the National Library of Medicine, NAL is one of three national libraries of the United States. It is the foremost agricultural library in the world.

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**Contact: Brian Norris
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NAL Information Center Receives Public Relations Award

Beltsville, MD – The Animal Welfare Information Center (AWIC) of the National Agricultural Library (NAL) has been recognized for outstanding promotional and marketing activities in 1990 with the prestigious John Cotton Dana Public Relations Award.

The award, sponsored jointly by the H.W. Wilson Company, Bronx, NY, and the ALA Library Administration and Management Association Public Relations Section, is presented annually to libraries or library organizations for "ongoing, sustained and well-rounded" public relations programs. Judges in the competition are notable figures in the fields of library science and public relations.

AWIC was cited "for a multifaceted public relations program to increase awareness and use of the Animal Welfare Center through effective outreach activities."

Activities planned and carried out by AWIC included bibliographic and research publications, an informational videotape, a quarterly newsletter, brochures in English and Spanish, seminars and open-house receptions.

"The staff of the Animal Welfare Information Center have worked extraordinarily hard in letting the American public know that they are available to provide information on subjects related to the welfare of animals used in research," said NAL director Joseph Howard. "This is a fitting and well-deserved tribute."

AWIC Coordinator Jean Larson accepted the award for her center July 1 at a reception attended by about 500 people and provided by the H.W. Wilson Company during the American Library Association (ALA) Annual Conference in Atlanta.

"I was surprised and excited when we won," Larson said. "AWIC is a non-traditional library service. We are

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indeed honored to be recognized with this distinguished library public relations award."

In addition to receiving the John Cotton Dana Award, parts of the AWIC public relations program were mentioned in the ALA publication "Solutions to Your Public Relations Challenges," published to give librarians across the country ideas on meeting common library public relations challenges.

AWIC is one of eleven information centers established by NAL to provide the most current information available on subjects of critical importance to the agricultural community of the world. Other centers cover agricultural trade and marketing, alternative farming techniques, aquaculture, biotechnology, food and nutrition, plant genome, rural information, technology transfer, water quality and youth development.

With the Library of Congress and the National Library of Medicine, NAL is one of three national libraries of the United States. NAL is the largest agricultural library in the world with over 2.3 million volumes.

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Livestock Paintings Exhibit at NAL Starting September 13

Beltsville, MD – An exhibit of farm animal paintings by some of the most famous artists of the last 150 years, including Jamie Wyeth, Seavey Lucas, Thomas Sidney Cooper and Edmund Gill, will begin a one-year national tour at the National Agricultural Library (NAL) in Beltsville, Maryland, September 13.

The exhibit, entitled "The Art of American Livestock Breeding" and sponsored by the American Minor Breeds Conservancy, will be open to the public, free-of-charge, in the NAL lobby through October 31, 1991 from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday (except holidays).

The library will hold an opening ceremony at 3:15 on Friday, September 13, in the NAL lobby. Speakers will be announced later. Following the ceremony there will be a reception sponsored by the Associates of the National Agricultural Library, Inc., and Friends of Agricultural Research – Beltsville, Inc. Attendance at the ceremony and reception is by invitation.

Included in the exhibit are paintings of cattle, horses, sheep, swine and poultry. Many of the portraits were commissioned by the owners of prize-winning or top performing animals. The paintings have been loaned for the exhibit by art collectors in the United States and England.

"This exhibit speaks to the cultural and historical importance of traditional breeds of livestock," said R. John Dawes, curator of the exhibit. "Though we are a nation descended from farmers, few of us can identify a breed of livestock. Knowledge of this valuable part of our heritage is nearly lost, along with the genetic diversity these breeds represent." Dawes said the exhibit will be of interest to animal scientists, farmers, historians, artists, art collectors and anyone who appreciates animals.

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The National Agricultural Library is located at the intersection of U.S. Route 1 and the Capitol Beltway (495) in Beltsville. The address is 10301 Baltimore Boulevard. Free visitor parking is available.

Following its run at NAL, the exhibit will be on tour until August 1992. Other venues include Penn State University in University Park, Pennsylvania; Michigan State University in East Lansing, Michigan; Washington County Museum of Fine Arts in Hagerstown, Maryland; and The Carnegie Museum of Natural History in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

The American Minor Breeds Conservancy is a non-profit organization that studies, promotes and conserves endangered and rare livestock breeds. The conservancy states that "in addition to their historical and esthetic value, these traditional breeds represent a treasure in the genetic diversity they represent and this resource must be conserved to meet the unknown needs of the future."

With the Library of Congress and the National Library of Medicine, NAL is one of three national libraries of the United States.

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NOTE TO EDITORS / NEWS DIRECTORS

The news media are invited to cover the opening ceremonies for this important art exhibit and to participate in the reception activities. Special arrangements to preview the exhibit also may be made for the news media by contacting Brian Norris at (301) 344-3778.



United States Department of Agriculture



From the National Agricultural Library

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United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Library
Public Affairs Office, Room 204
Beltsville, MD 20705

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